

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02767 01 OF 03 010123Z
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2400

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 USUN NEW YORK 02767

EXDIS

THIS IS A JOINT STATE-DEFENSE MESSAGE

ARMY FOR DAMO-SSM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: WESTERN FIVE MEETING ON MILITARY
PLANNING

REF: USUN 2591 (NOTAL)

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PAGE 02 USUN N 02767 01 OF 03 010123Z

1. THE CONTACT GROUP AND MILITARY ADVISERS TO THE
UN MISSIONS OF CANADA, FRANCE, AND THE UNITED STATES
MET JUNE 28-29 TO CONSIDER THE ADVISABILITY OF
UNDERTAKING CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR A UN MILITARY
PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA. THE MORNING AND AFTERNOON SESSIONS
ON JUNE 28 WERE ALSO ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM
WASHINGTON AND OTTAWA. THE REPRESENTATIVES FROM

WASHINGTON INCLUDED: DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HELMAN, NILES (IO/UNP) CAPT BURGESS, UNS, (IO/PM), AND COL BOURNES, USA (DIA).

2. AS NOTED REFTTEL, THE UN SECRETARIAT HAS DONE SOME PLANNING FOR THE CIVILIAN SIDE OF THE UNITED NATIONS TRANSITION ASSISTANCE GROUP (UNTAG) BUT HAS DONE LITTLE IF ANY FOR THE MILITARY SIDE. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE SECRETARIAT WILL DO ANY SUCH PLANNING IN THE ABSENCE OF AFRICAN ACCEPTANCE OF THE FIVE'S SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL. THE VIEW OF THE FIVE, THEREFORE, HAS BEEN THAT IN ORDER TO AVOID DELAYS AND UNNECESSARY LAST-MINUTE IMPROVISING OF UNTAG, IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR THE FIVE TO DO SOME CONTINGENCY PLANNING OF OUR OWN. AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE CONTACT GROUP FOR THIS PURPOSE JUNE 28, IT WAS DECIDED THAT A JOINT EFFORT OF THE FIVE SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN TO DEVELOP CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR THE MILITARY SIDE OF UNTAG WHICH WOULD BE MADE DISCREETLY AVAILABLE TO THE UN SECRETARIAT AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME. (IT WAS AGREED THAT THE APPROPRIATE TIME WOULD BE BETWEEN THE TIME OF ACCEPTANCE BY ALL PARTIES OF OUR SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL AND THE SECOND MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL). THE DECISION TO UNDERTAKE THIS PLANNING WAS MADE ONLY AFTER ALL MEMBERS OF THE GROUP HAD AGREED ON
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PAGE 03 USUN N 02767 01 OF 03 010123Z

THE CARE AND CONFIDENTIALITY WITH WHICH THIS PROJECT WOULD HAVE TO BE TREATED. IF WORD OF THE PLANNING WERE TO BECOME PUBLIC, THE GROUP COULD EASILY BE CHARGED WITH INTERFERING WITH THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE UN SECRETARIAT OR TRYING TO IMPOSE ITS OWN VIEWS ON HOW THE UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATION SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT. SUCH ALLEGATIONS WOULD ONLY UNDERMINE THE GROUP'S INTENT; NEVERTHELESS, IT WAS AGREED THAT THIS RISK WAS LESS TROUBLE-SOME THAN THE RISKS INVOLVED IN A LAST-MINUTE, SEAT-OF-THE-PANTS UN OPERATION.

3. IT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY AGREED THAT THE PLANNING WOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY AVAILABLE MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FIVE IN NEW YORK. NEITHER THE BRITISH NOR THE GERMANS HAVE SUCH REPRESENTATIVES, BUT THE GERMANS SAID THAT THEY WOULD PROVIDE A NON-MILITARY PARTICIPANT FOR THE PLANNING, AND THE BRITISH SUGGESTED THAT THEY COULD ARRANGE FOR COLONEL REILLY, AN AIDE TO LORD CARVER, TO BE PRESENT IN NEW YORK AT ANY PARTICULARLY USEFUL STAGE IN THE PLANNING. THIS MILITARY PLANNING GROUP WOULD BE COORDINATED BY THE CANADIAN MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE IN NEW YORK AND WOULD

WORK IN CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH THE REGULAR CONTACT GROUP. (THE USUN MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE IN THE PLANNING GROUP WOULD BE SUPPORTED BY DOD IN SPECIFIC AREAS AS REQUIRED. THE CONTACT GROUP BELIEVES THAT THE CONTINGENCY PLANNING SHOULD BE COMPLETED WITHIN 2-3 WEEKS. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MILITARY PLANNING GROUP WILL BE WEDNESDAY, JULY 5. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT REQUEST DEFENSE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE ON FORCE DEVELOPMENT TO THE USUN MILITARY REPRESENTA-

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02767 02 OF 03 010124Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 USUN NEW YORK 02767

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TIVE IN THE JULY 5 MEETING. THE DISCUSSION AT THAT MEETING WILL BE BASED ON THE ASSUMPTIONS OUTLINED IN MEETINGS OF JUNE 28-29 (SEE PARA 5 BELOW) AND WILL ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP FORCE STRUCTURE TO INCLUDE RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT. THE USUN MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON, DC, AT ANYTIME BETWEEN NOW AND WEDNESDAY TO BRIEF APPROPRIATE PERSON(S) FURTHER ON THOSE ASSUMPTIONS AND ON THE FORCE AS

ENVISIONED BY THE CONTACT GROUP.

4. BEFORE SETTLING DOWN TO A PRELIMINARY
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PAGE 02 USUN N 02767 02 OF 03 010124Z

DISCUSSION OF THE PLANNING, THE FIVE RECEIVED AN
EXTREMELY IMPRESSIVE BRIEFING BY COL. BILL BOURNES,
USA, A FORMER MILITARY ATTACHE IN PRETORIA. THE
PRESENTATION FOCUSED ON THE GEOGRAPHIC, DEMOGRAPHIC,
CLIMATIC AND OTHER PHYSICAL FEATURES OF NAMIBIA AND
PROVIDED A VERY INSTRUCTIVE INTRODUCTION TO THE
DIFFICULTIES OF MILITARY PLANNING IN NAMIBIA.

5. ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 29 THE CONTACT GROUP MET
WITH THE MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES TO CONSIDER
A LIST OF POLITICAL QUESTIONS WHICH THE MILITARY
REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED TO HAVE ANSWERED IN ORDER TO
COMMENCE THEIR PLANNING. FOLLOWING ARE THE
ASSUMPTIONS, WHICH EMERGED FROM THOSE QUESTIONS, AND
WHICH THE CONTACT GROUP AGREED SHOULD BE USED AS A
BASIS FOR THE PLANNING:

BEGIN TEXT OF ASSUMPTIONS:

1. A. THE USUAL PEACE-KEEPING RULES FOR ENGAGEMENT
WOULD BE APPLIED IE THE FORCE MAY USE ARMS IN SELF-
DEFENSE AND SELF-DEFENSE INCLUDES PREVENTION OF
INTERFERENCE WITH THE FORCE CARRYING OUT ITS MANDATE.

B. IN MONITORING OF CESSATION OF HOSTILE ACTS
AND MONITORING SOUTH AFRICAN AND SWAPO TROOP
RESTRICTIONS, UNTAG WOULD ESTABLISH
LIAISON WITH TROOP UNITS AND SUB-UNITS TO
REPORT UPON COMPLIANCE WITH RESTRICTIONS.

C. RESTRICTION TO BASE WOULD BE DEFINED TO INCLUDE
NORMAL AND NECESSARY MOVEMENTS BY THE PERMISSION AND
UNDER THE MONITORING OF THE UNSR.
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PAGE 03 USUN N 02767 02 OF 03 010124Z

D. RESIDUAL FORCES WOULD RETAIN THEIR ARMS.
(WITHDRAWING FORCES WOULD TAKE THEIR WEAPONARY WITH
THEM.)

E. APPREHENSION AND DISARMING INDIVIDUALS

ILLEGALLY CARRYING ARMS WOULD BE A TASK FOR POLICE,
UNDER MONITORING OF UNTAG.

2. IT IS ACCEPTED THAT THE BORDER CANNOT BE SEALED
AND THAT INFILTRATION CANNOT BE TOTALLY PREVENTED.
(SA CANNOT PREVENT IT WITH ALL OF THEIR FORCES). UNTAG
WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE A FORCE AT DESIGNATED
CROSSING POINTS AND SUPERVISE POLICE OR BORDER
GUARD CONTROL OF ENTRY. THAT FORCE WOULD USE
ARMS IF NECESSARY.

3. WHAT RESPONSIBILITY WOULD UNTAG HAVE FOR
CROSSINGS OTHER THAN AT DESIGNATED CROSSING POINTS?
THE ANSWER IS: OBSERVATION, INTERCEPTION, AND DISARMING
(TO INCLUDE THE USE OF COUNTERFORCE IF NECESSARY).

4. WHAT OTHER BORDERS AND ENTRY POINTS ARE TO BE
MONITORED BY UNTAG? THE ANSWER IS: FOR POLITICAL
REASONS, ONE COMPANY EACH WOULD BE REQUIRED ON THE
BORDER WITH SOUTH AFRICA (TO INCLUDE LUDERITZ BAY)
AND OUTSIDE WALVIS BAY; AND SYMBOLIC MONITORING OF THE
BOTSWANA BORDER. APPROPRIATE MONITORING OF
WINDHOEK AND GROOTFONTEIN AIRPORTS.

5. WHEN CITIZEN FORCES AND COMMANDOS HAVE TURNED
THEIR ARMS IN TO CENTRAL DEPOTS, WILL UNTAG MERELY
HAVE TO OBSERVE DEPOT SECURITY, I.E. ARMS REMAIN

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02767 03 OF 03 010125Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 USUN NEW YORK 02767

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UNDER CONTROL OF CIVIL AUTHORITY AND UNTAG WOULD REPORT,
BUT NOT PREVENT, RE-ISSUE? YES.

6. WHAT IS MEANT BY MONITORING MILITARY PERSONNEL
PERFORMING CIVILIAN FUNCTIONS? WE ASSUME THAT SUCH
PERSONNEL WOULD BE TURNED INTO "CIVILIANS" IF THEY
REMAIN AND WOULD MORE APPROPRIATELY BE MONITORED
BY THE CIVIL SIDE OF UNTAG.

7. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT WEAPONS OF ETHNIC FORCES
(I.E. BUSHMEN, ETC.) WOULD BE RETURNED TO SOUTH
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PAGE 02 USUN N 02767 03 OF 03 010125Z

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